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Letter dated 14 January 2010 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the attached letter of 9 January 2010 addressed to me by the Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations, Gyan Chandra Acharya, in which he requested, on behalf of his Government, the extension of the current mandate of the United Nations Mission in Nepal from 23 January until 15 May 2010.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) BAN Ki-moon

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Annex

Letter dated 9 January 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instruction from my Government, I have the honour to request an extension of the duration of the current mandate and the continuation of the related work of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN) until 15 May 2010. The Government of Nepal has decided to seek the renewal of the mandate in view of the current transitional situation of the country and in recognition of an important role played by UNMIN in providing support and facilitation within its mandate to Nepal's nationally driven peace process since its establishment under Security Council resolution 1740 (2007) and subsequent renewals.

Looking at the successive developments in the country since November 2006, we have reason to be optimistic about the overall direction of the peace process in Nepal. Despite best efforts, occasional delays and roadblocks are inevitable in the transitional process from conflict to a post-conflict situation. However, the Government and the major political parties of Nepal remain fully committed to taking the peace process to a positive and speedy conclusion.

The committees of the Constituent Assembly have made substantive deliberations on various complex but important issues and many of them have submitted their inputs to the relevant bodies of the Constituent Assembly. The Government and major political parties are committed to completing the drafting of the new Constitution and its promulgation by May 2010.

In the meantime, the release of the disqualified children in the cantonments has already begun and we expect to complete the process by next month. Similarly, the Special Committee and the Technical Committee are intensifying their works related to the integration and rehabilitation of combatants of the Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) currently living in the cantonments. We expect the work of the Special Committee to be completed before the promulgation of the new Constitution.

In view of the developments outlined above, the Government of Nepal requests a shorter time frame of extension of UNMIN, until 15 May 2010.

(Signed) Gyan Chandra **Acharya**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative